

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ground support is pivotally coupled to the fixed blade and the elongated shaft is pivotally movable relative to the ground support up to a predetermined point comprising one fixed blade and at least two pivot blades pivotally connected to the ground support, the pivot blades functionally connected to the fixed blade through the gear connection.
7. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 13, comprising ~~one fixed blade and~~ three pivot blades pivotally connected to the ground support, the pivot blades functionally connected to the fixed blade through the gear connection, the pivot blades moving in relation to the fixed blade and arranged in an array, and the ~~at the pivot blades each having a gear tooth forming part of the gear connection between the pivot blades and the fixed blade, the fixed blade having a gear tooth gap for engaging the gear tooth on the pivot blades, the gear tooth of the pivot blade opposite to the fixed blade aligned to fit into the tooth gap of the fixed blade at a height different from the height of the gear teeth of the other two blades.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 6 ~~13~~, wherein movement of the elongated shaft toward the ground support up to the predetermined point causes the blades to squeeze the plant between the blades ~~also comprising a lifting part, the lifting part, the lifting part having a first end and a second end, the lifting part pivoted from its first end to the elongated shaft and functionally connected from its second end to the pivot blades such that pivoting the elongated shaft relative to the ground support causes the lifting part to rise upwards, and consequently causes the grip ends of the blades functionally connected thereto to move towards one another.~~

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 8 ~~13~~, wherein movement of the elongated shaft toward the ground support and beyond the predetermined point is operable to pry the blades and the plant from the ground ~~the blades are functionally connected to the lifting part and to each other by means of a gear connection.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein movement of the elongated shaft toward the ground support is operable to move the grip end of the fixed blade toward the pivot blades, and movement of the fixed blade is operable to move the grip ends of the pivot blades toward the fixed blade by the interaction at the gear connection ~~comprising two opposed blades functionally connected to the lifting part.~~

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A device for removing plants from the ground, the device comprising:

an elongated shaft, ~~the elongated shaft~~ having a first end and a second end;

the elongated shaft including a fixed blade extending from the first end, the fixed blade having a gap formed therein;

a ground support, ~~the ground support~~ pivotally connected to a first end of the elongated shaft so that ~~ground support is permitted to move transversely in relation to the longitudinal axis of the elongated shaft;~~

at least two pivot blades pivotally connected to the ground support;

the pivot blades each having a tooth cooperating with the gap in the fixed blade to form a gear connection operable to move a grip end of the blades toward one another when the second end of the elongated shaft is moved relative to the ground support.